

# Music development plan summary: St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	June 30th 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 30th 2026
Name of the school music lead	Elizabeth McCrimmon
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	South Tyneside
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

## Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

At St Joseph's, music is taught in class every week, following guidance and planning provided by Bishop Chadwick Education Trust, which follows the statutory requirements of the Music National Curriculum. The children receive a weekly, hour long lesson and are taught by class teachers. Teaching is further supported by the Charanga online programme and the Durham Music Service. Children are taught to sing progressively more challenging pieces, including singing in round and in harmony. They learn about music theory, including pulse, rhythm, melody, timbre and notation. They also learn how to create music, using percussion instruments such as the glockenspiel, which is accessible for all children including those with different needs. Children in Year 4 also learn to play the recorder as an ensemble.

## Part B: Extra-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Outside of lesson time, our weekly lunchtime guitar club provides children with professional tuition in small, supportive groups, which helps to foster confidence especially in beginners. Children can join the guitar club in Year 3 and often remain in it until Year 6. From Year 3, pupils can also join our school choir, which participates in a wide range of performances within school, within the local community and in exciting inter-school events. A recorder club is planned for September 2025. Both this and the choir are free to join. **Guitar club???** (pupil premium)

## Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Many musical experiences are planned for the academic year. These include regular events such as singing in weekly whole school Celebrations of the Word, class Celebrations of the Word and Masses. Singing techniques might include imitation, part singing, rounds or call and response.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children perform in Nativity performances that are always well attended by parents. Year 6 children also perform in an end of year musical performance, which is eagerly anticipated by parents and pupils alike.

Choir children have, for the last few years, attended the exciting 'Big Sing' at The Glasshouse International Centre for Music. This consists of a live 'gig' in one of the main concert halls, comprising a set of about ten lively songs, which the children have been taught at school and which allows them to be participating members of the audience.

The South Tyneside Music Hub presents the 'Different Voices' event in the summer term at which children from Year 3 to Year 6 are a participating audience, singing carefully selected, well-known songs with a band of professional musicians as part of an hour-long show. These events are free of charge to all children.

Year 1 and Year 4 children also perform in the South Tyneside Music Festival at the Customs House in the spring term, with, in the first half, each class showcasing their singing, followed in the second half by an inter-school musical production, which is often based on a well-known children's story.

Choir children also perform at the annual Christmas Tree Lights celebration at the local community centre, the Jarrow Catholic School Cluster Carol Service and at a local care home.

## In the future

This is about what St Joseph is planning for subsequent years.

In the subsequent years to come, we are planning to build on our music progress inline with BCCET development plans. We are going to continue to develop children's composition and notation skills. We will continue to develop our school choir and children's performance skills, with more opportunities to perform throughout the year with schools within our Trust and beyond, and in the community. We would love to provide our children with more opportunities to watch live music performances and develop a strong pupil voice. Furthermore, we will continue to provide our staff with CPD to continue to develop their confidence and subject knowledge.

Useful links:

The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where support is available beyond the school: [guide for parents and young people](#)

SouthTyneside Music Hub publishes information about music opportunities for pupils: [Music Opportunities in South Tyneside](#)